

REMARKS

I. The Office Action

The November 12, 2002 office action (the "Office Action") in this application:

1. objected to an informality in claim 1.

2. rejected claims 1 and 11-15 under 35 U.S.C. section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ludlow (1992) in view of Simpson (1981) and Jankovic (1991), and stated that res judicata appears to apply to this rejection due to decision 972,367 by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences.

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